By CW2 James Hughes Warrior Transition Battalion Fort Campbell, Kentucky

WTU focuses on medical and emotional needs; recognizes military achievements

I have had the honor and privilege to serve my country as both a Soldier and Sailor since May of 1997. During that time, I have worked with the most professional men and women this great country has to offer. But none has matched the dedication of those within the Warrior Transition Unit. I was assigned to Alpha Company, Warrior Transition Battalion, Fort Campbell, Kentucky, April 15, 2012, as a result of a neck injury that unfortunately ended my military career.

As a wounded Soldier, I was faced with many physical and mental trials, most significant being the Medical Evaluation Board (MEB) process and by consequence the transition from Soldier to civilian. The Officers and NCOs assigned to Alpha Company, WTU have made that transition much easier, and were always dedicated to my medical and emotional needs at any time, on any day. Not only is the WTU motivated to help Soldiers with their medical needs, but also they encourage us to further our education while assigned to the WTU, and make the time possible to do so. They encourage Soldiers to take time out to enjoy extracurricular activities through the "Hooah Program", which raises money for wounded Soldiers to attend professional sporting, hunting, and fishing events all over the United States. One thing that really impresses me with the WTU is not only do they concentrate their energy on the Soldier's medical and emotional needs, but they never falter on continuing to reward Soldier's for their military achievements as well. No Soldier leaves the WTU without being recognized with an end of service award, or the appropriate award for their service while assigned to the WTU.

There is no doubt in my mind that I would not have been as successful as I have been getting ready for civilian life if it were not for the dedication and professionalism of the Officers and NCOs who took care of me and my Family's needs while assigned to the Warrior Transition Unit. I would like to say a special thank you to the warrior leaders for taking time out of their extraordinarily busy schedules on more than one occasion to help me in this transition.